

FAILED BORDER POLICIES THREATENING AMERICA

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, upon returning to my office, I heard testimony from Secretary Mayorkas from Homeland Security saying that he inherited a mess at the border and that he is doing the best he can.

The American public ought to know what the numbers are. Two Marches ago, between got-aways who weren't vetted by the Border Patrol and people who were vetted by the Border Patrol, about 11,000 people a month were coming here. A year ago in March, it was around 60,000. We are right now at 153,000.

When you inherit a March with 11,000 and 2 years later you are at 153,000, you have not been doing the best you can.

This is threatening the end of America. It signals that America is very weak. I have felt all along the policies at the southern border are one of the reasons we have to deal with Ukraine right now, because no normal leader would allow this many people to cross the border.

In any event, I urge my colleagues, anybody who has the ear of Secretary Mayorkas or the President, to point out that when you go from 11,000 to 153,000 people a month in 2 years crossing the border, you have failed and something has to be done.

RISING COSTS OF HOUSING

(Mr. COSTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the increased cost of building materials, creating an affordability crisis for housing in America.

This is, in part, because the COVID-19 pandemic has played a significant role in harming our country's supply of lumber and building materials. In addition, tariffs with Canada, along with long-term reductions of domestic timber harvesting, have exacerbated the price increases.

According to the National Association of Home Builders, prices of materials to build houses, like oriented strand boards, are up more than 400 percent since last spring. The average price of lumber has quadrupled.

This supply cost has increased the price of a new house, a new single-family home, by nearly \$40,000 per unit.

I urge Congress and the Biden administration to take action to address the lumber supply chain, such as increasing domestic harvesting of timber and negotiating new lumber agreements with Canada. This is a way we can effectively reduce the cost of housing. We need to build more housing.

CONGRATULATING TEACHER OF THE YEAR KURT RUSSELL

(Mrs. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the 2022 National Teacher of the Year, Kurt Russell.

Mr. Russell teaches at Oberlin High School in Oberlin, Ohio. He is a 25-year veteran of the classroom.

Kurt Russell was first inspired to become a teacher in middle school when he encountered his first Black male teacher.

In addition to his classroom and extracurricular duties, Kurt is the head coach for the school's varsity basketball team. He sees basketball as an extension of the classroom and a place where young people can learn about working together and how to handle both adversity and success.

He provides an inclusive and safe environment for studying diverse groups and encouraging all students' voices to be heard.

Now, as the 2022 National Teacher of the Year, he plans to advocate for classrooms to better reflect the students within them.

Mr. Russell joins his cohort of National Teachers of the Year from every State and territory this week in Washington, D.C., to celebrate their achievement, the profession, and their dedication to students.

As a fellow National Teacher of the Year, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the entire cohort and all the teachers who are being recognized this week.

CRISIS AT THE BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACOBS of California). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY).

RECOGNIZING MIDLOTHIAN INNOVATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, I come before the House of Representatives to recognize the Midlothian Innovative Learning Experience, or MILE, as the nonprofit of the year in 2021 for the city of Midlothian, Texas.

This is a state-of-the-art educational facility that is providing high school students with additional learning pathways throughout the community. Nonprofits are a fundamental part of America, and I thank Midlothian Innovative Learning Experience for their dedication to teaching the future generation.

It is important that we bring awareness to career and technical education so that people can learn about many

different professions at a younger age. Career and technical education is a perfect way for students to apply what they are taught in school to a real-world environment.

MILE offers five career and technical education pathways: culinary arts, entrepreneurship, civil engineering, aerospace engineering, and cybersecurity. These programs provide students the opportunity to utilize industry-standard equipment and practices they have shown an interest in.

This unique learning space is able to replicate scenarios found in a professional, real-world working atmosphere. With the support from industry professionals, MILE is able to thrive and partner with Midlothian Independent School District.

It is an honor to represent this group of mentors who help contribute to the outstanding education found all around Texas' Sixth District. I thank them for all they do.

RECOGNIZING ORISE KOPNAK ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Orise Kopnak, who just celebrated her 100th birthday.

Twice a week, this Waxahachie, Texas, resident volunteers at Baylor Scott & White hospital to volunteer in the day surgery department waiting room. Since 2014, she has logged more than 2,400 hours of her personal time to encourage, serve, and assist people who are waiting for a loved one to come out of surgery.

Orise's faithfulness to stand with the families, friends, and caregivers of patients during anxious and often difficult circumstances is a testament to her character. Even during a pandemic, Orise continued to volunteer.

People like Orise Kopnak represent everything that is good about our country. America was built on the volunteer principle. It has been instrumental in our Nation's advancement and made us, as Americans, a strong and self-reliant people.

Ronald Reagan once said the volunteer spirit is the engine that drives the whole history of the United States. It is an extra dimension of faith, friendship, and brotherhood that makes us good neighbors and good people and made America a great country.

I thank Orise for showing us how it is done. There is a reason her generation has been dubbed the Greatest Generation. May God bless her as she continues to carry out one of life's greatest causes: serving others.

RECOGNIZING DEMOND DAVIS

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, I take this time to recognize one of my constituents, Ellis County Sheriff's Deputy Demond Davis.

Deputy Davis was new to the sheriff's force when he responded to a 10-200, which is a drug-related incident. Once he arrived, he witnessed a drug overdose. The individual was struggling, barely breathing, and his conditions were intensifying. Deputy Davis rushed to help and quickly administered Narcan nasal spray.